

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SS-20 SSO-00 ISO-00 IO-14 NSC-07

NSCE-00 /059 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/INS:RDLORTON:MMK

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O R 240037Z SEP 74 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 209913

TOSEC 32

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, NP, US

SUBJECT: UNDER SECRETARY SISCO'S MEETING WITH NEPALESE
FOREIGN MINISTER KARKI

1. UNDER SECRETARY SISCO SCHEDULED MEET BRIEFLY WITH
NEPALESE FONMIN KARKI IN NEW YORK SEPTEMBER 24.
BILATERAL BRIEFING PAPER PREPARED FOR
SECRETARY'S POSSIBLE USE REMAINS CURRENT. ON UN ISSUES,
WE SUGGEST UNDER SECRETARY ALSO SEEK KARKI'S SUPPORT FOR
OUR POSITIONS ON THE KHMER AND KOREA ISSUES.

2. SINCE SECRETARY'S SCHEDULE DOES NOT PERMIT HIM
MEET WITH KARKI FOR SECOND YEAR IN ROW, UNDER SECRETARY
MAY WISH STRESS EXTRAORDINARY TIME DEMANDS ON SECRETARY'S
SCHEDULE WHICH HAVE PREVENTED HIM FROM SEEING KARKI AS
WELL AS MANY OTHERS.

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3. ONLY MATTER NOT COVERED IN BRIEFING PAPER WHICH

KARKI MAY RAISE IS NARCOTICS CONTROL BILL BEFORE THE NEPALESE NATIONAL LEGISLATURE. GON CONCERNED ABOUT ADVERSE ECONOMIC IMPACT BILL COULD HAVE ON PEASANTS WHO EARNED CASH INCOME FROM MARIJUANA CULTIVATION, AND WE SUSPECT AT SOME POINT THEY MAY ASK US FOR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO OFFSET THE LOSS OF INCOME. WE HAVE NOT GIVEN ANY ENCOURAGEMENT TO EXPECT HELP FROM US.

4. SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS IF KARKI RAISES ISSUE OF NARCOTICS CONTROL: (A) WE WELCOME INTRODUCTION OF NARCOTICS CONTROL BILL INTO THE LEGISLATURE AND HOPE IT WILL BE PASSED DURING THE NEXT SESSION; (B) IF GON SEES PROBLEMS CAUSED BY ADVERSE ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF THE BILL, WE BELIEVE THE UNITED NATIONS IS BEST EQUIPPED DEAL WITH ANY SUCH PROBLEMS OF IMPLEMENTATION FOLLOWING ENACTMENT OF THE BASIC LEGISLATION.

5. ON KHMER REPRESENTATION, NEPAL VOTED AGAINST DEFERMENT AT 28TH GA AND MADE PUBLIC COMMITMENT TO SIHANOUK DURING KING'S VISIT TO PEKING. HOWEVER, NEPALI OFFICIALS HAVE SAID NEPAL "RETAINS OPEN MIND" ON OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ASPECTS OF QUESTION, THAT NEPAL HAS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH NEITHER GRUNK NOR GKR, BUT HAS AMICABLE TIES WITH LATTER. THERE IS POSSIBILITY, THEREFORE, THAT NEPAL MIGHT BE INDUCED TO ABSTAIN ON KHMER THIS YEAR PARTICULARLY IF ISSUE CAN BE FORMULATED AS PROCEDURAL RATHER THAN SUBSTANTIVE.

6. ON KOREA, EMBASSY KATHMANDU BELIEVES NEPAL LIKELY TO ABSTAIN ON ANY DRAFT RESOLUTION BUT DOES NOT RPT NOT RULE OUT ITS BEING CAJOLED BY "NON-ALIGNED" INTO SUPPORTING NORTH KOREANS. US APPROACH WOULD BE DESIGNED TO HOLD NEPAL TO ABSTENTION AT A MINIMUM. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE209913
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RDLORTON:MMK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740267-0847
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740918/aaaaapiy.tel
Line Count: 95
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JUL 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <11 MAR 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNDER SECRETARY SISCO'S MEETING WITH NEPALESE FOREIGN MINISTER KARKI
TAGS: PFOR, NP, US, UNGA
To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005